MAXWELL JONES

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Double major in **AI and Math** at CMU undergrad, MS Machine Learning CMU masters, incoming PhD candidate @ CMU in ML Department

Research Interests: **Computer Vision, Deep Learning, Generative Modeling for Vision**

Awards/Honors

CMU Rales Fellowship (~80k/yr, 2 yrs)

Siebel Scholar 2024 ($35k)

CMU ·
Mark Stehlik Introductory and Service Teaching Award

ULSAC (University Leadership Student Advisory Council) CMU 2023-2024

CMU · Phi Beta Kappa (Honor Society)

Skills

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Python
Java
C
JavaScript
HTML / CSS
LaTeX
SQL
Julia

TOOLS/FRAMEWORKS

Pytorch
NumPy
SciPy
Unix Command Line
Git
Sklearn
Keras
Pandas
Jupyter Notebook
regex
Matplotlib
OpenCV
Slurm

COURSEWORK

11-777 Multimodal ML
10-708 Probabilistic Graphical Models
15-485 Intro to Deep Learning
16-385 Computer Vision
10-703 Deep Reinforcement Learning
10-725 Convex Optimization
10-718 ML in practice
36-700 Statistics
10-315 Intro to Machine Learning
15-210 Parallel Algorithms
15-213 Computer Systems
21-484 Graph Theory
21-301 Combinatorics

HOBBIES/INVOLVEMENT

Panelist: AI Research @ CMU
Panelist: AI Jobs/Internships @ CMU
Judge: WWP Hacks 2022 (HS hackathon, $5000+ in prizes)
NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers)
Origami Club
Carnegie Mellon Club Basketball

Education

Carnegie Mellon University — Sept. 2023 to Current
MS Machine Learning 2024

Carnegie Mellon University — Sept. 2019 to May 2023
BS Artificial Intelligence
BS Math
GPA: 4.0/4.0

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology — Sept. 2015 to May 2019
High School Diploma 2019
GPA: 4.1/5.0

University Research

Generative Modeling Research · Carnegie Mellon University — Oct. 2022 to Current

- Research under prof Jun-Yan Zhu in the Generative Intelligence Lab
- Investigating ability to customize **stable diffusion** models for user specified purposes

Semi Supervised Learning Research · Carnegie Mellon University — Fall 2021 to May 2023

- Research under prof Nina Balcan in scalable graph-based Semi-Supervised Learning
- Leverage **K-Nearest Neighbor** graphs and **Conjugate Gradient Method** using **SciPy**
- Perform evaluation on **MNIST**, **CIFAR**, and common NLP datasets (20-newsgroups) with **Sklearn** using Bag of Words
- Achieved **same accuracy, 100x speedup** on large graphs with respect to closed form solutions with matrix inverses
- Used **Image Embeddings** from layer 2 of **Resnet-18** adapted for **CIFAR** in order to clean up more difficult image classification problem
- **Accepted at UAI 2023**

Employment

Carnegie Mellon University — Pittsburgh, PA
Administrative Assistant/Teaching Assistant for AI Scholars Program — Summer 2023, June 2023 to Aug. 2023

- Worked with Prof. Pat Virtue on Summer AI Program for high school students from diverse backgrounds
- Helped develop and deploy course material
- Taught lecture on generative models including GANs and Diffusion models

Meta | FAIR Labs — New York City, NY
Software Engineer/Machine Learning Intern — May 2022 to Aug. 2022

- Co-authored paper to benchmark algorithmic **Bias Amplification** of models from biased datasets.
- Using **ResNet-18, ClassyVision** and **Pytorch** to benchmark bias for controlled subsets of **The Visual Genome** dataset
- Creating custom datasets, running experiments with **Slurm**, and **Cleaning Data** for **Image Classification**
- Developed **Scripts** to run **Custom Config Files** using both **Bash** and **Python** for large scale hyperparameter testing/analysis
- **Managed project tasks** for myself and co-authors on **Computer Vision** FAIR team through weekly meetings, syncs and idea sharing
- **Accepted at neurIPS 2022 TSRML Workshop**

Meta | Probability and Uncertainty — Remote
Software Engineer Intern — May 2021 to Aug. 2021

- Developed data perturbation training/evaluating/testing pipeline in **Python,** leveraging **Pytorch** for main testing
- Tested probabilistic models including **Bayesian**, **Ensemble**, and **Dropout** focused networks modeled off of **LeNet-5**
- Evaluated models on perturbed image data (**Random Cropping, Rotation, Jittering**)
- Used **MNIST** and **FashionMNIST** datasets for testing, Created visualizations using **Matplotlib** for presentation

Carnegie Mellon University — Pittsburgh, PA
Head Teaching Assistant 15-151 (Discrete Math), Teaching Assitant 15-251 (CS Theory) — Fall 2020 to Current

- Over 2+ years, **Head TA** for **50+ TAs,** impacting **500+ students** (Concepts of Mathematics, Theoretical CS)
- Responsible for **hiring, providing training** and **assessing performance** for TAs
- Contributed significantly to **course structure generation** and **exam creation**
- **Design/Lead staff meetings,** coordinate **TA-Professor interactions, delegate TA responsibilities**

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles — Remote
Data Science Intern — May 2020 to Aug. 2020

- Worked on amount of absentee workers prediction model across production plants
- **Significant increase in model accuracy** for absentee worker prediction at all plants (2% increase, 5000+ employees)
- Improved model performance by using **Random Forests** and **XGBoost,** cross referencing crew attendance across plants
- Queried data from **PostgreSQL** database and used **Pandas** library to store query results

Projects

Cozmo Depth Map! (codebase) — Apr. 2023

- Final Project on team of 2 for Cognitive Robotics at CMU
- Programmed a robot to use **MiDaS**, a monocular **depth estimation** model on camera input with 8 GB GPU
- Given real world sparse depth from aruco markers, calculate optimal scaling factor for relative depth map
- Allow users to query any pixel on screen and output real world depth estimate

Battlecode AI Competition (codebase) — Jan. 2022

- Created **Java** software on small team, for AI bot to compete against other teams in month-long MIT lead tournament
- Combined 500+ person-hours, 2000+ lines of code per year
- Leveraged **distributed** communication **algorithms** and **pathfinding** to increase bot's effectiveness
- Implemented **bit packing** methods, **Priority Queues** and **Stacks,** and **K-Means Clustering** to improve performance
- Placed top 10 out of 250 teams internationally (2021, 2022, 2023), 1st out of all first-time teams(2021), **$2000+ in prize winnings**

TartanHacks: Spot your Mood! (codebase) — Feb. 2021

- Competed in Carnegie Mellon's main Hackathon on team of 4
- Created an add on for **Spotify** using **Python** and **Flask** to track mood of users listening
- Developed **Vector Embeddings** for mood based on **Spotify API** metadata and sentiment analysis
- Used **Euclidean Distance** in the **Embedding Space** to execute recommendation decisions
- Functionality for both song and playlist generation based on mood factors and specific genre choices